

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 00962 281717Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 MCT-01 SY-05 AID-05 A-01 OC-06
CCO-00 HA-05 USSS-00 SCS-06 CA-01 OPR-02 OMB-01
/085 W

-----064429 281741Z /45

O R 281630Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5858
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USSOUTHCOM QUARRY HIEGHTS CZ

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINS, NU
SUBJECT: FURTHER VIOLENCE: STUDENTS KILLED

1. FURTHER VIOLENCE CONTINUED ON FEB 27 IN MANAGUA, MASAYA, AND TO A LESSER EXTENT IN OTHER CITIES. FROM REPORTS TO DATE, THE MOST SERIOUS INCIDENT OCCURRED IN MANAGUA WHERE THREE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (UNAN) STUDENTS DIED OF GUNFIRE AND A FEW OTHERS, INCLUDING ONE PROFESSOR, WERE WOUNDED. ACCORDING TO UNAN OFFICIALS, THE STUDENTS BEGAN IN THE MORNING PLANNING A DEMONSTRATION. THEY APPARENTLY TRIED TO SET UP A BARRICADE ON THE ROAD PASSING THE CAMPUS AND STOPPED AND BURNED A BUS IN EITHER LATE AFTERNOON OR EARLY EVENING. THE GN BEGAN FIRING RIFLES AND MACHINE GUNS. THE THREE STUDENTS WHO WERE KILLED WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ON THE CAMPUS ABOUT TWO HUNDRED YARDS FROM THE ROAD. THE GN DID REPORTEDLY VIOLATE CAMPUS AUTONOMY BY ENTERING IT AT ONE POINT.

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2. IN MASAYA THERE WAS STILL FIRING BETWEEN PROTESTORS AND GN FORCES UNTIL ABOUT FIVE P.M. ON FEB 27. THE GN LAUNCHED AN OPERATION ON THAT DATE TO CLEAR THE STREETS OF BARRICADES AND ANTI-VEHICLE DEVICES USING ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS TO PROVIDE PROTECTION FOR PUBLIC WORKS CREWS. THE CITY HAS BEEN BROUGHT UNDER GN CONTROL BUT REMAINS TENSE AS THE PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN FIRING ON THE GN VEHICLES AND AIRCRAFT RETAIN THEIR WEAPONS AND THE GN HAS ISSUED DEADLINES FOR

PERSONS TO COME OUT OF VARIOUS LOCATIONS AND SURRENDER THEIR ARMS
OR ELSE THE GN WILL ATTACK.

3. THERE WAS A DEMONSTRATION IN DIRIAMBÁ, NEAR JINOTEPE, WHICH RE-
SULTED, ACCORDING TO RADIO REPORTS, IN FIRE BEING SET TO A JUDICIAL
OFFICIAL'S OFFICE.

4. COMMENT: THE MANAGUA DND MASAYA EVENTS INDICATE THE GN IS ACTING
WITH INCREASED FORCE. WHETHER THE SHOOTING OF THE STUDENTS WAS
DELIBERATE IS UNCLEAR AND PROBABLY WILL REMAIN SO. HOWEVER, THE
DEATHS AND THE VIOLATION OF CAMPUS AUTONOMY LIKELY WILL RESULT IN
INCREASES STUDENT REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVISM.
RUBENSTEIN

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Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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